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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

BONSHOCK, DENNIS G

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/829,049	Applicant(s) WHITMARSH ET AL.	
	Examiner Dennis G. Bonshock	Art Unit 2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9-7-05.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 31-53 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 31-53 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed on record in the file: Amendment as received on 09-07-2004.

Claims 1-53 have been examined.

Status of Claims:

2. Claims 31-34, 36-39, 41-45, and 47-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sanchez et al., Patent # 5,832,298, hereinafter Sanchez.

3. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanchez and Wilson, GB 2,347,766.

4. Claim 40 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanchez and Alimpich et al., Patent #6,232,968, hereinafter Alimpich.

5. Claim 46 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanchez.

6. Claims 1-30 have been canceled by the applicant.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

8. Claim 46 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it

pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. It is was not described in the amendment, nor could the support for -the client device and the resource being located at the same node where the user interface builder provides at least part of an application program associated with the particular resource-, be found in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10. Claims 31-34, 36-39, 41-45, and 47-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sanchez et al., Patent # 5,832,298, hereinafter Sanchez.

11. With regard to claim 31, which teaches a network-based user interface system, comprising: an extensible resource interface located at a first network node and adapted for coupling to a plurality of client devices each located at one of a plurality of second network nodes different from the first network node, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 31-36 an in figure 1, a resource interface, at a node in a network, that communicates with a plurality resources, at a different node, over a network to provide updated configuration and capabilities information. With regard to claim 31, further teaching a register configured to collect resource information from one or more resources located at other than the first network node, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 35-41, requesting and receiving configuration and capabilities information from a

resource located at a different node in the network. With regard to claim 31, which further teaches, an options module configured to provide resource options based on the resource information, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 41-47, generating a graphical user interface using the retrieved information, the interface providing a menu of job options. With regard to claim 31, further teaching a user profiler configured to construct profiles for at least some of the client devices, each profile indicative of client-specific resource options and a user interface builder configured to construct from the resource options and a particular one of the profiles a customized user interface for the corresponding one of the client devices, the customized user interface indicative of the corresponding client specific resource options, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 41-61 and in column 11, lines 43-67 and in figure 10, generating a graphical user interface using the retrieved information, the interface providing a user selectable menu of job options for selecting job options which are appropriate for the current configuration and current capabilities of the device, and further providing a means of accepting information pertaining to a particular task of a particular user and configuring the peripheral device from the user's workstation in response to the user selected option.

12. With regard to claim 32, which teaches the customized user interface being provided to the corresponding one of the client devices, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 30-47, the customized user interface being transmitted to the client system for display.

13. With regard to claim 33, which teaches the customized user interface being retained by the user interface system, Sanchez teaches, in column 5, lines 29-43, the applications and drivers stored either on the computer or on a network file server.

14. With regard to claim 34, which teaches the first network being a node in a local area network, Sanchez teaches, in column 1, lines 5-16, the network being a Local Area Network.

15. With regard to claim 36, which teaches the customized user interface comprising a user interface to a printer driver, Sanchez teaches, in column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 11 and column 4, lines 23-26, a GUI for a printer driver.

16. With regard to claim 37, which teaches the customized user interface comprising a hierarchical menu of printer option screens, wherein one or more of the printer option screens is provided dynamically based on user preferences, printer capabilities, and user print option selection, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 35-51 and column 12, lines 1-8, a user selectable menu of job options presented to the user, where options include user preferences, capabilities, and options selection.

17. With regard to claim 38, which teaches the user profiler is further configured to record the client-specific resource options preferred by individual ones of the client devices, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 8-11, providing a listing of only the job options currently available.

18. With regard to claim 39, which teaches the user profiler is further configured to record the preferred client-specific resource options as usage metrics, Sanchez

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teaches, in column 2, lines 51-61, a storing of a user selectable option upon selection by a user, and adapting the display accordingly.

19. With regard to claim 41, which teaches the customized user interface is built when the corresponding one of the client device registers with the user interface system, Sanchez teaches, in column 13, line 41 through column 14, line 2 and column 14, lines 20-24, building the custom user interface when the request is made to use a networked peripheral device.

20. With regard to claim 42, which teaches the customized user interface is rebuilt when the corresponding one of the client device changes preferences, Sanchez teaches, in column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 11, keeping the graphical user interface up to date which the current configuration and capabilities of the networked peripheral device.

21. With regard to claim 43, which teaches the one or more resources, being a plurality of resources, Sanchez teaches, in column 6, lines 37-44, the device being a multifunction peripheral device.

22. With regard to claim 44, which teaches the resources are printers, Sanchez teaches, in column 1, lines 31-37, the resource being a printer.

23. With regard to claim 45, which teaches each profile includes at least one of a printer type, a print language a print media size, or a print media layout, Sanchez teaches, in column 1, lines 31-37 and in column 12, lines 1-8, the GUI comprising printer type, the media size, and layout information.

24. With regard to claim 47, which teaches wherein the extensible resource interface further includes a logger configured to capture usage data of the resources by the client computer, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 51-61, a storing (capturing) of a user selectable option upon selection by a user, and adapting the display accordingly.

25. With regard to claim 48, which teaches each of the client devices is a device selected from the group consisting of a computer, a computer system, a file server, or a handheld computing device, Sanchez teaches, in column 5, lines 5-16 and lines 35-38 and in figure 1, the client devices being a computer, a laptop, and a server.

26. With regard to claim 49, which teaches the other network node is a third network node different from the first network node and the plurality of second network nodes, Sanchez teaches, in column 5, lines 5-16 and in figure 1, a network comprising multiple nodes.

27. With regard to claim 50, which teaches the other network node is one of the plurality of second network nodes, Sanchez teaches, in column 5, lines 5-16 and in figure 1, a network comprising multiple nodes.

28. With regard to claim 51, which teaches the resource options are indicative of operational features of the resources, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 1-10 and lines 35-51, the options being indicative of capabilities of the resource.

29. With regard to claim 52, which teaches a network based use interface system, comprising: an extensible resource interface located at a first network node and adapted for coupling to a plurality of client devices each located at one of the plurality of second network nodes different from the first network node, Sanchez teaches, in

column 2, lines 31-36 an in figure 1, a resource interface, at a node in a network, that communicates with a plurality resources, at a different node, over a network to provide updated configuration and capabilities information. With regard to claim 52, further teaching means for collecting resource information from one or more resources located at other than the first network node, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 35-41, requesting and receiving configuration and capabilities information from a resource located at a different node in the network. With regard to claim 52, further teaching means for providing to a particular one of the client devices a customized user interface for a particular one of the resources, the customized user interface based on the resource information and on user preferences associated with the particular one of the client devices, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 41-61 and in column 11, lines 43-67 and in figure 10, generating a graphical user interface using the retrieved information, the interface providing a user selectable menu of job options for selecting job options which are appropriate for the current configuration and current capabilities of the device, and further providing a means of accepting information pertaining to a particular task of a particular user and configuring the peripheral device form the user's workstation in response to the user selected option.

30. With regard to claim 53, which teaches means for recording usage metrics indicative of the user preferences, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 51-61, a storing of a user selectable option upon selection by a user, and adapting the display accordingly.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

31. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

32. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanchez and Wilson, GB 2,347,766.

33. With regard to claim 35, Sanchez teaches a user interface system that control resources coupled to a network (see column 2, lines 35-61). Sanchez, however, doesn't teach that the user interfaces system is an Internet web page. Wilson teaches a method of controlling multiple printers similar to that of Sanchez, but further teaches, in column 2, line 40, the use of a web page for displaying the printer interface. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Sanchez and Wilson before him at the time the invention was made to modify the user interface system of Sanchez to include the ability to view the interface in the form of a web page, as did Wilson. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because a web page printer interface could provide multiple users easy access to the printer without the need to download application programs.

34. Claim 40 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanchez and Alimpich et al., Patent #6,232,968, hereinafter Alimpich.

35. With regard to claim 40, Sanchez teaches, the system of providing user specific profile information to a remote device, but doesn't specifically mention the customized

system being pre-built. Alimpich teaches a system for providing user specific options for print jobs similar to that of Sanchez (see column 2, lines 52 through column 3, line 45), however Alimpich further teaches a means of receiving a customized user interface pre-built (a default interface), see column 2, line 65. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Sanchez and Alimpich before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Sanchez to provide a default interface to the clients. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this would provide a good starting point to begin customization.

36. Claim 46 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanchez.

37. With regard to claim 46, which teaches a particular one of the client devices and a particular one of the resources are located at a same network node, wherein the user interface builder provides at least part of an application program associated with the particular resource to the particular client device wherein the application program is configured to control the particular resource, and wherein the customized user interface is configured to access the application program, Sanchez teaches, in column 2, lines 31-36 an in figure 1, a resource interface, at a node in a network, that communicates with a plurality resources, at a different node, over a network to provide updated configuration and capabilities information, but doesn't specifically mention a case where a device is located locally to a resource. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Sanchez before him at the time the invention was made to modify the interface system to provide support for local resources. One would

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have been motivated to make such a combination because most PCs provide support for local resource (printers, copiers, faxes) connected directly, and further provide access via the same interface that provides remote access to remote devices.

Response to Arguments

38. The arguments filed on 09-07-2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The reasons are set forth below.

39. With respect to the applicant's argument, that the application is in condition for immediate allowance.

40. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that the claims, as currently presented, are believed to be covered by the prior art of record.

Conclusion

41. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571) 272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.


42. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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43. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

3-23-05

dgb



RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173